

**August:** Precipitation returned close to normal in August bringing some relief to the drought which had lasted for nearly a year. Temperatures remained high throughout most of August until a cold front came through the last week of the month bringing showers and cooler temperatures. Producers began harvesting corn in early August and had close to 40 percent harvested at the end of the month. Pasture and livestock conditions showed little improvement during the month.

**September:** The average monthly temperature cooled more than 13 degrees from August making it the 10<sup>th</sup> coolest September on record. However, precipitation remained more than 1.5 inches below normal at 2.29 inches. Row crop harvesting was well underway in September and farmers had begun planting small grains. Livestock got a break from the high temperatures during the month, and pastures showed some improvement from the recent moisture and cooler temperatures.

**October:** Temperatures, as a whole, were slightly cooler than normal in October. Average precipitation was less than an inch below normal, but some areas of the State received virtually no rainfall the entire month. Farmers continued planting small grains throughout October and had finished planting rye near the end of the month. Producers had most of the corn harvested by mid-October. Both pasture and livestock conditions showed some improvement during the month.

**November:** Producers had the majority of winter wheat planted by mid-November. With the exception of cotton, row crop harvesting was winding down near the end of the month. Oklahoma was hit by a strong winter storm the last two days of November. The storm brought snow, sleet, and freezing rain to much of the State, while the southeastern portion received mostly rain. Some areas received 15 inches of snow, and the winds created drifts up to three feet deep. Pasture and range conditions declined during November, and livestock producers continued hauling water to their herds.

**December:** Average precipitation for the month of December was 1.65 inches above normal. Grazing was limited in many areas due to the dry conditions last fall. Drinking water for livestock remained a problem, with temperatures at or below freezing. A major storm hit Oklahoma near the end of December bringing large amounts of precipitation to the State. The panhandle was hit by a wintry mix that left thousands without power. Cattle were much thinner than normal as hay and feed supplies were hard to come by.

